

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/821,359

Examiner

Kiran B. Patel

Applicant(s)

BOYER, THOMAS J.

Art Unit

3612

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/03/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,4 and 6.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 April 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date 12/3/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Examiner's Amendment and
Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
Allowance

1. An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Serbinowski.

2. The application has been amended to read as follows:

1. A corrosion-resistant utility body for mounting onto a truck chassis, comprising a pair of body side storage compartment units mounted along rear side portions of the truck chassis, each of said units comprising:

a storage compartment assembly of metal walls forming compartments that lead to separate side openings;

a one-piece face plate comprised of metal including door openings aligned with each of said side openings of said respective storage compartment assembly;

fasteners that connect each said one-piece face plate to an outer surface of a respective said storage compartment assembly; and

door assemblies connected to said one-piece face plate in alignment with said door openings;

wherein said body side storage compartment units are weld-free.

2. The utility body of claim 1 wherein a pair of contiguous said walls includes one wall including a pre-cut hole therein and another wall having a flange including a pre-cut hole therein, said pre-cut hole of said flange and said pre-cut hole of said surface being aligned, each of said fasteners comprising a head that contacts an outer one of said walls, a shank comprising a plurality of lock grooves extending from said head through said aligned pre-cut holes, and a tubular collar that has an interior portion swaged into said lock grooves into contact with an inner surface of the other of said walls effective to clamp said walls together.

3. (Cancel)

4. A corrosion-resistant utility body for mounting onto a truck chassis comprising a pair of body side storage compartment units mounted generally parallel to each other onto rear side portions of the truck chassis, each of said units comprising:

a storage compartment assembly of metal panels and sections forming compartments that lead to separate side openings, said storage compartment assembly comprising side wall panels extending generally vertically, an upper panel extending generally horizontally over said side wall panels, a back section extending generally vertically and lower sections extending between said side wall panels, said panels and sections being constructed and arranged relative to one another to form said storage compartment assembly including said side openings, wherein a periphery of some of said panels and sections include flanges in which flange holes are pre-cut and a periphery of others of said panels and sections are without flanges in which surface holes are pre-cut, said flange holes being aligned with said surface holes on contiguous said panels and sections;

a one-piece face plate comprised of metal including door openings aligned with each of said side openings of said respective storage compartment assembly, said one-piece face plate further including pre-cut holes that are aligned with flange-holes on flanges of said panels and sections on an outer surface of said respective storage compartment assembly;

fasteners that connect each said one-piece face plate to said flanges of said panels and sections on the outer surface of said respective said storage compartment assembly and connect together said panels and sections, said fasteners connecting contiguous pairs of members selected from the group consisting of said face plate and said panels and sections, each of said fasteners comprising a head that contacts an outer surface of one of the members, a shank comprising a plurality of lock grooves extending from said head through said aligned pre-cut holes in said members, and a tubular collar that has an interior portion swaged into said lock grooves into contact with an inner surface of a flange of the other one of the members effective to clamp together the contiguous pairs of the members; and

door assemblies connected to said one-piece face plate in alignment with said door openings;

wherein said body side storage compartment units are weld-free.

5. (Cancel)

6. A method of constructing a corrosion-resistant utility body for mounting to a truck chassis, comprising the steps of:

providing body side storage compartment units adapted to be mounted along rear side portions of a truck chassis, each said unit being comprised of:

a storage compartment assembly of metal panels and sections forming compartments that lead to separate side openings, said storage compartment assembly comprising: side wall panels constructed and arranged to extend generally vertically; an upper section constructed and arranged to extend generally horizontally over said side

wall panels, a rear section constructed and arranged to extend generally vertically, lower sections constructed and arranged to extend between said side wall sections; and

a metal one-piece face plate constructed and arranged to be disposed on outer surfaces of said storage compartment assembly and to include door openings aligned with each of said side openings on said storage compartment assembly,

wherein said one-piece face plate includes a plurality of pre-cut holes, and each of said panels and sections includes flanges around a periphery thereof that extend generally horizontally or vertically, a periphery of some panels including surface holes that are not located on a flange and said flanges including flange-holes formed therein;

positioning said one-piece face plate to align flange holes in outer flanges of said plates and sections with said pre-cut holes of said one-piece face plate;

positioning said panels and sections to align said flange holes with said surface holes in contiguous said panels and sections;

interconnecting contiguous pairs of members selected from the group consisting of said face plate and said panels and sections, using a plurality of swage-type fasteners, a fastening step during interconnection comprising: inserting a shank of said fastener through said aligned pre-cut holes in said members until a head of said fastener contacts an outer surface of one of the members, said shank comprising a plurality of lock grooves, inserting a tubular collar onto said shank and swaging an interior portion of said collar into said lock grooves into contact with an inner surface of a flange of the other one of the members effective to clamp together the contiguous pairs of the members and construct said body side storage compartment units weld-free; and

connecting door assemblies to each of said one-piece face plates in alignment with said door openings.

3. The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for the allowance of the claims in this case, is the inclusion of the limitation "a pair of one-piece face plates comprised of metal, each of said one-piece face plates including door opening aligned with each of said side openings of said respective storage compartment assembly; fasteners that connect each said one-piece face plate to an outer surface of a respective said storage compartment assembly; and door assemblies connected to said one-piece face plates in alignment with said door openings" in the independent claim, in combination with the other recited limitations in claims supported by this application, which are not found in the prior art of record.


4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications should be directed to Primary Examiner Kiran B. Patel whose telephone number is 571-272-6665. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F from 8:00 to 5:00. The

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fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is
assigned is (703) 872-9306.


Kiran B. Patel, P. E.
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3612
May 13, 2005